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MEXICAN FOREIGN MINISTER SEPULVEDA ARRIVES

PY222111 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1815 GMT 22 Oct 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Oct (NA) -- Mexican Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda arrived here today to attend a meeting of the Argentine-Mexican joint committee and to meet with President Raul Alfonsin.

Sepulveda, who arrived from Brazil, was welcomed at the metropolitan airport by his Argentine counterpart, Dante Caputo.

Caputo said that the joint committee will begin its meetings on 23 October and that it will address commercial and economic issues.

Caputo added: "An analysis will be made in an attempt to promote bilateral cooperation. The participation of Mexico in the construction of the Loma de la Vaca gas pipeline in Neuquen, which is essential for the development of that region, will be evaluated."

In addition to technical matters, Caputo said, the meetings with Sepulveda will also afford "a very good opportunity" to continue talks on regional issues of interest to the two governments, such as the Central American crisis.

For his part, Sepulveda attached "great importance" to his visit to Argentina, because "it will allow us to continue the dialogue that began in December 1983 and that we have improved at every available opportunity."

"We want to promote bilateral trade, taking into account the excellent level of our political relations," he said.

concerning his meeting with President Alfonsin, Sepulveda said that the agenda will be established by the president.

BRIEFS

1986 BUDGET BECOMES LAW -- The government has signed this year's budget into law, the Public Information Secretariat (SIP) announced last night. The 1986 budget, which provides for a total government expenditure of 14,312,862,000 australs, became law by virtue of decree 1911, which was signed by President Raul Alfonsin, Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille and Treasury Secretary Mario Brodersohn. [Text] [Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 Oct 86 p 1 PY]

SARNEY 'DISGUSTED BY SHLAUDEMAN'S STATEMENT

PY232358 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 23 Oct 86 p 11

[Text] President Jose Sarney has frowned on the threatening statement made by U.S. Ambassador Harry Shlaudeman in Sao Paulo on 21 October. The ambassador said that the United States will close its market to products from countries that, like Brazil, "close their doors to innovation from the most dynamic and competitive sectors of the U.S. economy." President Sarney, however, decided not to send any official note to the U.S. Embassy in Brasilia in response to the statement.

President Sarney was particularly disgusted with one passage of the statement Ambassador Shlaudeman made at the Sao Paulo American Chamber of Commerce. In that passage, the U.S. ambassador asked for "fair treatment in trade matters, and the negotiation of differences in a professional manner, without political emotionalism." In the president's opinion, that was a provocation which, if repeated, will not go unanswered.

Sarney said that contrary to Shlaudeman's assertion, the presidential recommendations to government officials regarding Brazilian-U.S. trade have been that the question not become polemic.

Contacted by FOLHA yesterday in Sao Paulo, Ambassador Shlaudeman said that his statement was misinterpreted.

ITAMARATY DENIES INFORMATICS AGREEMENT WITH U.S.

PY231424 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] Itamaraty says that it is unaware of the fact that Brazil has signed a secret agreement with the United States on the informatics issue.

This comment was made yesterday by Itamaraty spokesman Rui Nogueira when he referred to reports datelined Washington which state that the Brazilian ambassador to Washington, Sergio Correia da Costa, has reportedly signed an agreement on this issue with the White House [as heard] trade representative, Clayton Yeutter.

According to this agreement, the Brazilian Government has reportedly committed itself to adopt three specific steps to improve the relations with the United States, namely to submit to the national Congress a bill regulating copyrights as a legal protection for software [previous word in English] computer programs, to decentrailize the Special Secretariat of Informatics (SEI), and to draw up a list of products that would not be included in the reserved informatics market, the so-called negative list.

According to spokesman Rui Nogueira, Itamaraty is aware of the first item, that is, submitting to the national Congress a bill regulating the software [previous word in English].

The Itamaraty spokesman endorsed a note released this week by the Science and Technology Ministry, denying that the Brazilian Government has struck an agreement with the United States to settle the informatics dispute.

Rui Nogueira also commented on the statement U.S. Ambassador to Brazil Harry Shlaudeman made this week. According to Nogueira, Shlaudeman clearly expressed the U.S. position and suggested a more professional and less emotional handling of the informatics issue.

SODRE STRESSES 'NEGOTIATION' IN U.S.

PY240102 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Roberto de Abreu Sodre has said in Sao Paulo that the word retaliation has been scratched from the dictionary of U.S.-Brazilian relations. He explained that negotiations between the two countries are proceeding smoothly, trying to solve two problems: the reserved computer market and the customs surcharge of 8.5 percent on orange juice imported by the United States.

[Begin Abreu Sodre recording] In the talks we held with Whitehead [John C. Whitehead, Deputy Secretary of State] and other U.S. officials the word retaliation has not been used. Our objective is to accommodate interests. As I have said, Brazil is a big country and it needs to negotiate. This is the role of diplomacy -- to seek solutions through a peaceful process of talks. Brazil is now a great nation which cannot be disregarded. [end recording]

Minister Abreu Sodre noted that the progress Brazil has attained in recent years has transformed it into a competitive nation which can negotiate with developed countries and organizations like the EEC. We are no longer a country than can be imposed upon, he said, and then added that the problems of the reserved computer market and the customs surcharge on orange juice will have to be discussed at length with the United States.

NUCLEAR PROGRAM LOSES 'PRIORITY' IN BUDGET CUTS

PY231807 Paris AFP in Spanish 0121 GMT 22 Oct 86

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 21 Oct (AFP) -- Brazilian Mines Minister Aureliano Chaves today said to the local press that the nuclear program has not been granted a priority status in the 1987 Brazilian Government budget.

Chaves made this statement during a meeting with Nuclebras [Brazilian Nuclear Corporations, Inc.] Director Ronaldo Fabricio, who resigned his post because of budget cuts to the 1987 nuclear program.

Chaves said that he cannot pressure ministers in the economic has established nonexistent resources. He added that because of a lack of resources, the government query has established priorities for its investments, and the nuclear sector is not among them.

Chaves said that the Brazilian nuclear program will not be paralyzed but he added that the implementation of the program will be compatible with the resources available.

Ronaldo Fabricio said that the Angra II nuclear plant, the first in a series of eight plants scheduled to be built within the framework of a 1975 agreement signed with the FRG, will not be operational by 1992 as was scheduled, due to the resources that the national budget has allotted to the nuclear sector in 1987.

According to Fabricio, in 1986 we worked at a slow pace because of budget cuts in the nuclear sector which decreased from $230 million to $120 million.

The Brazilian nuclear program, which is conducted within the framework of an agreement that was signed in 1975 with the FRG, has been virtually paralyzed since the beginning of 1984 because of budget cuts in the public sector.

This agreement provides for the installation in Brazil of eight nuclear plants of 1.3 million kilowatt power each for the production of electricity. It also provides for the transference of technology to carry out all the necessary operations for prospecting, extracting and production of uranium, for the construction of an uranium enrichment plant, and for the construction of a radioactive fuel reprocessing plants.

The original Brazilian nuclear program established that the eight plants would be operational by 1990, but because of the modifications that were recently established by the Brazilian Government, there will be one plant operational by 1992 and other one by 1995. [as received]

The Brazilian Government has not yet decided whether the other six plants provided for in the nuclear program, in which $4.828 billion have already been invested, will be built.

ANGRA I FACES ONGOING OPERATING PROBLEMS

PY221833 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 19 Oct 86 p 29

[by Paulo Motta]

[Text] Despite the fact that it began to operate commercially in January 1985, the Angra I nuclear plant has already had to change the 48,000 rods on its steam condensor (one of the factors that caused it to close down in January of that year), and now it will have to change the system that it uses for storing radioactive waste. The purchase of the new equipment alone (excluding the cost of installation), will cost approximately $6 million (84 million cruzados).

The rods had to be changed because they were corroded and covered in barnacles. Furnas technicians at that time stated that the chemical treatment used by Westinghouse in the steam generator caused the corrosion. Other experts have guaranateed that the problem was caused because the U.S. enterprise had planned that the plant would use fresh water in its refrigeration system (like many plants use in the United States), but sea water is used here in Brazil.

The system for storing radioactive waste will have to be changed because the current system dates from the 1960's. Since that time, this sector has developed greatly and the radioactive waste produced at Angra I does not comply with the standard guidelines of the IAEA nor of the National Nuclear Encergy Commission [CNEN]

The so-called low and medium-activity system of stabilization of radioactive waste [sistema de imobilizacoa dos rejeitos radioativos de Baixa e Media atividade] of the Angra I plant is really a process through which nuclear waste is placed in drum cylinders for their future final storage in a deposit to be built by the CNEN. Before it is placed in drums, the radioactive material is mixed with concrete and vermiculite so as to avoid leads of radioactive waste. Nevertheless, the system used by Angra I is outdated and it does not meet the present IAEA or CNEN specifications.

Alfredo Trajan Filho, chief engineer of the Furnas power plant division, recently admitted that the company did not replace the nuclear waste processing system within the deadline established by CNEN. He explained that the difficulties of adapting a new system to the present processing equipment. According to the CNEN, the system should have been replaced within a 2-year period after the plant entered a critical state, which occurred in March 1982.

Trajan reported that since we were unable to meet the deadline, we built a temporary deposit to store radioactive waste. This was done in compliance with CNEN and national and international security measures. The present stages of storage of radioactive waste are perfectly safe and safeguards the environment, the population, and plant employees. We have already bought a new processing system. Its cost totals $800 thousand and it will be in operation by the end of next year.

Trajan added that the new unit will yield a smaller volume of nuclear waste than produced by the present system. He said that the present temporary deposit that was built near Angra I has a capacity to store 4,000 barrels of nuclear waste of low and medium activity and that it can store Angra I nuclear waste for 3 or 4 more years.

CUBAN TRADE MINISTER WANTS SHIPPING AGREEMENT

PY221517 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguest 21 Oct 86 p 23

[Text] Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrizas yesterday expressed interest in acquiring Brazilian-made railroad locomotives. This information was disclosed by Luis Carlos Lopes Moreira, foreign relations secretary of the Transport Ministry, following a meeting that Cabrizas held with Transport Minister Jose Reinaldo Tavares.

Cabrizas also stated Cuba is interested in reaching a shipping agreement with Brazil for the transport of goods.

Cabrizas will submit proposals for bilateral trade agreements to Itamaraty today. During this week the Cuban minister will meet with Murilo Habema, superintendant of the SUNAB [National Superintendency of Supplies], to obtain more information regarding the Brazilian merchant shipping system.

According to the Cuban foreign trade minister, his meeting with Brazilian ministers are only a preliminary contact to analyze the possibilities of trade agreements between the two countries. Jose Reinaldo told Cabrizas he will invite the Cuban transport minister to visit Brazil. The date has not yet been decided.

DEL VALLE COMMENTS ON U.S. OFFICIAL'S STATEMENTS

PY240233 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2330 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has stated the Chilean Government's domestic policy is not subject to foreign pressures. Thus he commented on U.S. Ambassador Harry Barne's statement wishing for the lifting of the state of siege, and suggesting that the approval of credits to Chile is linked to that desire. Minister del Valle also said the arms caches that were found in the country were the first step in the attempt to take over political and military control of the country. We now have a report by correspondent Jose Francisco Contreras:

[Begin recording] [Contreras] Minister del Valle commented on declarations made by U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for American Republic Affairs Robert Gelbard. Mr Gelbard noted the danger the extreme left poses in Latin America, its attempts to transform Chile into a theater of the East-West confrontation, and to destabilized both the government of General Pinochet and the whole region. Minister del Valle pointed out the similarity between Mr Gelbard's and the Chilean Government's views. As for the smuggling of arms into Chile, he said they were intended not only to destabilize the current government, but any future democratically-oriented government. He added those weapons were going to be used in an attempt to take over political and military control of the country.

As for the declaration of U.S. Ambassador Harry Barnes who expressed a wish that the state of siege be lifted, Minister Del Valle said everyone wishes that the conditions to allow the lifting of the state of siege would exist. He added the government declared the state of siege because it thought it had to, and the state of siege will be maintained as long as conditions deem it advisable. As for the suspension of administrative measure to meet foreign demands, as a prior condition for the approval of credits to Chile, del Valle said:

[Del Valle] The government has never made its domestic policy subject to foreign demands. Its actions are determined by internal conditions. Democracy is making headway because the government wants it to; because this is the pledge the government made upon swearing to uphold the Constitution. This is the pledge we live up to, regardless of the wishes of other countries' foreign ministries. We are abiding by the wishes of the Chilean people who voted for the Constitution. [end recording]

Finally, Minister del Valle dismissed the idea that Chile is heading for a crisis. The country, he said, is going through a transition process that is being properly conducted, so that we can reach the desired goal following the established timetable. He reasserted that Chile is not crisis bound.

Truck Owners Demonstrate

PY240238 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Excerpt] Just after Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle made a strong statement about the possibility that preconditions will be placed on credits for our country, truck owners demonstrated in support of the government.

The truck owners asked President Ronald Reagan not to deprive Chile of the resources it needs to continue its development. The Truck Owners Confederation, headed by Julio Lagos, delivered a note addressed to President Ronald Reagan at the U.S. Consulate. Part of the letter says: We appeal to the feelings of your excellency, as President of that great sister nation with which we have so many spiritual and moral links, to prevent the officials of your government from depriving Chile of the essential resources it needs to continue its road to progress and development.

Julio Lagos indicated a large motorcade of about 1,500 trucks was formed to deliver the letter. Samuel Chavez, the confederation representative, told this radio station the demonstration did not have any political connotations. [passage omitted]

CUADRA ANNOUNCES ARRESTS IN ATTACK ON PINOCHET

PY240140 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Excerpts] A few minutes ago, Minister Secretary General of the Government Francisco Javier Cuadra confirmed that five terrorists, who took part in the brutal attack against President Augusto Pinochet on 7 September, have been arrested by the Investigative Police. These people are now at the disposal of the ad hoc military prosecutor Fernando Torrez Silva.

This information was provided by Minister Cuadra during a press conference which has just ended here in La Moneda Palace. Minister Cuadra read a public declaration giving the identity and the criminal background of the terrorists, who are all members of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front terrorist organization. The official declaration read by the minister says:

[Begin recording] As is well-known by the public the ad hoc military prosecutor, who is investigating the attack against the life of his excellency the president of the Republic and commander in chief of the Army, Captain General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, ordered a widespread investigation by the appropriate security and police organizations. [passage omitted]

These organizations, using all their professional, technical, and scientific capabilities, have conducted an investigation to identify the people responsible for the serious attack and to accurately determine the circumstances. As a result of the investigation the Chilean Investigative Police have arrested five members of the so-called Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front, a paramilitary organization of the Communist Party, who have admitted their participation in the attack and whose identities are:

1. Juan Moreno Avila, alias Daniel Edgardo Bustos Campos, alias Sacha or Claudio, 26 years of age. He received military training from August 1984 to July 1985 in the Punto Cero and Pinar del Rio camps in Cuba. Bustos Campos fired his M-16 four times from the east.

2. Victor Leodoro Diaz Caro, alias Luis Felipe (Hansing Caulen), alias Alonso or Daniel, 28 years of age. He drove a blue Toyota pickup which was later found abandoned at the bus stop No 25 on Vicuna Mackena Avenue. Diaz Caro fired his M-16 from the west. This individual, who left the country for Sweden in 1976, is the son of Victor Manuel Diaz (Loves), former deputy secretary general of the Communist Party.

3. Arnaldo Hernan Arenas Vejar, alias (Milton), (Mito), or Joel, 32 years of age. He drove a blue Peugeot 504 station wagon with a trailer in front of the presidential motorcade firing three M-16-cartriges.

4. (Renin) Fidel Peralta Veliz, alias Oscar or Sergio, 23 years of age. He fired three M 16-cartridges from the hill.

5. Jorge Mario Angulo Gonzalez, alias Carlos or Pedro, 27 years of age also fired two M-16-cartridges from the hill.

These individuals also admitted participating in other terrorist actions in different areas. They are being held at the headquarters of the Chilean Investigative Police and will be put at the disposal of the appropriate judte. Investigation and the evaluation of the testimony and documents of the arrested individuals continue in order to gather more information on the criminal attack. Santiago, 23 October 1986.

This material will be delivered to the representatives of the press in the offices of the Ministry Secretary General of the Government. [end recording] [passage omitted]

GOVERNMENT CONDEMNS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

PY231801 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0346 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] Santiago, 22 Oct (EFE) -- The Chilean military government today stated, through its Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia, that the government is "eminently respectful of human rights." Garcia made this statement to reporters at the end of a meeting with the government committee that advises the Interior Ministry on human rights.

The interior minister said this committee has prepared, based on preliminary press reports, several proposals which it has presented to the Interior Ministry. These proposals relate to illegal pressures, treatment of detainees and others, which have received "maximum attention." He added: "I want to state that we are eminently respectful of human rights, and we condemn any violation of these rights."

Garcia stated: "If in any of these cases human rights have been violated, those who are responsible must be investigated and tried accordingly." He added: "This is the guideline, the policy, and the instructions the government has given to all those who are responsible on this matter." He said "this guideline, this line of thinking, and this policy are what inspires the government, contrary to what some people may say on this subject."

Jurist Ricardo Martin, chairman of the Human Rights Advisory Committee, created by the government4 months ago, stated "the committee has dealt with 80 denunciations presented on alleged violations of those rights, and in 5 cases there apparently had been violations." However, Martin added, "the committee must still confirm them thouroughly before preparing the final report."

The (non-government) Chilean human rights commission in its latest reports for the month of April 1986, denounces the "5 deaths, 16 frustrated homicides, 10 reports of torture, and 83 cruel, inhuman, and demeaning incidents which were recorded during that month; and that 340 of the 935 prisoners still remain in jail, and 3,740 people suffer indefinite banishment."

FPMR ENDORSES UNIVERSAL TRUCE PROPOSED BY POPE

PY240348 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0332 GMT 24 Oct 86

[Text] Santiago, 23 Oct (EFE) -- The Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR), which is regarded as the paramilitary branch of the Chilean Communist Party, has announced its endorsement of the universal truce for peace proposed by the pope for Monday, 27 October. The armed Marxist group today informed several international news agencies that it was responding to the call made last week by the Chilean Episcopal Conference.

A note signed by the FPMR national leadership dated Santiago 22 October is "an open letter to Bernardino Pinera, chairman of the Chilean Episcopal Conference." The letter says that in answer to the call made by the bishops "to all national sectors to join the truce proposed by the pope," on Monday, 27 October, the FPMR will not carry out any armed action on that day." "We believe this truce will be unilateral," the letter says, because the FPMR does not expect the repressive forces of the Chilean military regime to do the same thing.

The FPMR national leadership also states: "Because we truly seek to bring peace to our fatherland we have started a struggle to this end." It adds that "our struggle is aimed at securing peace once and for all for all Chileans."

Last Thursday, the Chilean Episcopal Conference issued a public statement signed by its chairman, Msgr Bernardino Pinera, urging "all Chilean sectors to make a new effort to hold a dialogue." In their statement, the bishops said they were making that request to both the government and the opposition within the framework of the universal day of truce proposed by the pope for Monday, 27 October.

GEN DANUS APPOINTED CONSUL TO SAN FRANCISCO

PY231150 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1346 GMT 22 Oct 86

[Text] Santiago, 22 Oct (EFE) -- General Luis Danus, the current commander of the Chilean Southern Military Region whose retirement was announced by the High Command, will be the Chilean consul to San Francisco, USA. Gen Danus' appointment was published today in the Santiago media. Danus made remarks regarded as being signs of dissidence, and which have provoked conflicting reactions.

According to press reports General Gaston Frez, who is also regarded as being "independent" from the government and who was put on the retirement list together with Danus and seven other generals, "might be appointed as the Chilean representative to multilateral organizations headquartered in Montevideo."

General Alejandro Medina Lois, another high-ranking official put on the retirement list, might be appointed ambassador to the ROK. General Julio Canessa, former member of the Government Junta, "has reportedly declined a position as new ambassador to Israel."

BARCO 'STRONGLY' DEFENDS FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

PA231938 Bogota Television Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Report by Graciela Larsh]

[Text] Presient Virgilio Barco Vargas has strongly defended freedom of expression here in Cartagena. The president questioned the legal dispositions of the Betancur administration and called them impositions that restrict the journalistic activities.

The president inaugurated the meeting of the 4th Colombian Publicity Congress, which began yesterday at the convention center and reaffirmed the position of the Liberal government. He announced his decision to strengthen the free and responsible media and stated there will be no impositions or restrictions that will weaken the press and force its disappearance. The president took this opportunity to manifest before 1,000 delegates to the congress his disagreement with the controls on the political publicity and the compulsory publication of announcements subject to the criteria of the National Council of drugs.

[Begin Barco recording] This government, which has neither requested nor enjoyed a period of grace, hereby states that it does not share the interferences that on behalf of the misinterpreted state interventionism have been affecting what should be a very free activity. In addition, these interferences could be setting the basis for more serious and dangerous interventions in the future. [end recording]

President Barco also pointed out the advantages of reaching special agreements to report on terrorist actions or other incidents that affect security or endanger the right to life. Finally, President Barco said he does not expect at all to draw the favor or the benevolence of the media and that this attitude should not be confused with indifference or lack of interest.

FARC REPORTEDLY VIOLATES PEACE ACCORDS

PA231946 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 21 Oct 86 pp 1, 2

[By Eduardo Carrillo]

[Text] The left-wing guerrillas plan to establish a sole combat front to seize power and cause clashes between the public opinion and the National Army while they continue to carry out attacks, kidnappings, extortion, and to receive aid from abroad and from drug traffickers.

This was reported by Brig Gen Ramon Emilio Gil Bermudez, commander of the Army 10 Brigade, during a roundtable organized by the Unity Foundation for Progress. The roundtable was called "Solidarity with Cauca."

During his address, Gil Bermudez said the FARC continues to recruit students and peasants and is increasing in number, in violation of the peace accords signed with the government in La Uribe, Meta.

He reported 2 fronts used to operate in Cauca, where the peace agreements were signed, but now there are 4 composed of more than 400 men. Regarding the M-19, he said 3 of its fronts are active, particularly that in the northeastern part of the department, and that the American Battalion includes 40 rebels of the Peruvian Tupac Amaru and the Ecuadoran Alvaro Lives.

The 10th Brigade Commander said the left-wing rebels continue to receive aid from socialist-bloc countries and drug traffickers.

The socialist countries train the rebels politically and militarily and supply them with sophisticated communications equipment and weapons.

He explained drug traffickers also give them weapons and other means.

Gen Ramon Emilio Gil Bermudez said the subversive movements that are active in Colombia currently have four well-defined goals.

These include the demilitarization and reduction of the system of activity [as published] of the Army and National Police, in order to cause, through propaganda, clashes between the forces of order and public opinion.

Other goals are the concentration of masses and the calling of continuous and prolonged civic stirkes throughout the nation.

BRIEFS

TRADE BALANCE FIGURES -- According to the National Administrative Department of Statistics, DANE, Colombia's trade balance up to April, on the basis of customs manifests, showed a surplus of $424.8 million which the figures for the same period last year showed. The change is exlusively due to the coffee bonanza, which led to a 91 percent increase in sales. [Text] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 18 Oct 86 1 PA]

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS REPORT -- According to information supplied by the Bank of the Republic, as of 20 September, there is a $621.3-million surplus in the current account, thus "turning around" the $150.5-million deficit that existed around this date last year. The balance of trade registers a favorable balance of $700 million; the only blemish is the services sector, which is still $563.3 million in the red. As of 23 September, net international reserves are $2,4663 billion. [Text] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 21 Oct 86 p 10 PA]

ANTIOQUIA GOVERNOR APPOINTMENT -- Antonio Yepes Parra, a surgeon, has been appointed governor of Antioquia Department, replacing Bernardo Guerra Serna who resigned [Summary] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 19 Oct 86 p 1 PA]

SECURITIES COMMISSION PRESIDENT -- The government appointed Alba Lucia Orozco de Triana as new president of the National Securities Commission yesterday. She replaces Alberto Gomez. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 19 Oct 86 p 1-a PA]

AGRICULTURE MINISTER LANIADO RESIGNS POST

PA230400 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 23000 GMT 22 Oct 86

[Text] Minister of Agriculture and Livestock Marcel Laniado has officially resigned from the post he has held since 10 August 1984. On 27 October the president will sign the decree confirming the resignation.

During the 26 months Laniado headed the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, he made important changes in the farming area. Efforts have been concentrated in the country's farming, cattle, and forestry areas.

PRESIDENT DECLARES STATE OF EMERGENCY IN CANTON

PA231308 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Oct 86

[Text] Marco Lara, national secretary of public information, reported to the media the president's decision to declare a state of emergency in the Santo Domingo de los Colorados Canton following the acts of violence that have been carried out there. Lara emphasized the measure was taken to avoid acts that upset order and the country's internal security. President Febres Cordero invoked the national security law, which includes such things as total press censorship of those members of the media who try to subvert order in the canton. Marco Lara also said the Constitutional Guarantee Tribunal has been notified on this declaration of emergency because the National Congress is not currently in session.

[Begin Lara recording] These measures have been taken as a precaution to maintain order, safeguard tranquillity, and prevent the continuation of acts of violence in that canton that can only lead to confrontation between Eucadorans. These situations, which no one wants and which do not lead to the resolution of problems, are used as a pretext to carry out the acts we have mentioned. This is the reason for calling this meeting with my distinguished national press colleagues, and the information on the situation in Santo Domingo de los Colorados will be supplied to the national press this afternoon. [end recording]

BRAZIL'S SODRE DISCUSSES TRADE RESTRICTIONS

PY202206 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 18 Oct 86 p 11

[Text] Paraguayan Foreign Minister Carlos Augusto Saldivar spoke to the press after meeting with Brazilian Foreign Minister Roberto Abreu Sodre at the site of the Itaipu hydroelectric dam. Saldivar admitted that Paraguay wants to move ahead the scheduled date for concluding th dam "because the sooner the dam is finished, the sooner there will be more energy for Paraguay, which means more development and greater income for the country."

Regarding the trade obstacles imposed by Brazil at the border, Saldivar said that "we did not discuss trade matters because this is being discussed by Brazilian and Paraguayan specialist organizations."

Saldivar indicated that during the meeting, which lasted from 1100 until 1136, "the discussion centered on Paraguayan-Brazilian relations and common projects including Itaipu and the railroad project for carrying agricultural products."

Regarding the people known as the "Brasiguayos" [Brazilian settlers living in Paraguay], Saldivar said that "we are hoping that cooperation between the two countries will improve in such a way that the presence and work of the settlers will be beneficial."

Brazilian Foreign Minister Roberto Abreu Sodre told the Paraguayan press that his government is very interested in solving the restrictive trade measures put in effect by Brazil on 15 August in Foz de Yguacu which reduced by 70 percent sales to Brazilian tourists in Puerto Stroessner.

Abreu Sodre indicated that "this is a problem we should discuss all the time. Paraguay and Brazil are growing and this development was the cause of this problem. It is a typical problem created by development."

Asked if the restrictive measures would be kept, he said that they could be changed and that he even has a proposal from the Paraguayan Government on that issue. He said there is a possibility that beneficial agreements may be reached. His words created hope.

Regarding Itaipu, Abreu Sodre said that his government is interested in speeding up the construction work schedule "within possible limits" and that the necessary financing would be sought.

CAMPOS SAYS CP FAVORS OPPOSITION UNITY

PY222157 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2323 GMT 21 Oct 86

[Text] Prague, 21 Oct (EFE) -- Paraguayan Communist leader Hugo Campos said today at a press conference in Prague that the Paraguayan Communists favor unity among the opposition forces in the country and the use of all forms of struggle against the regime of General Alfredo Stroessner.

Hugo Campos, a member of his party's Political Commission, said that "the struggle against the dictatorship has recently been intensified and that more people are participating in it. The people are taking to the streets, and opposition political organizations are strenuously seeking unity, but their efforts are being undermined by dogmatic and individualistic positions."

Campos believes it is possible that the United States might promote the replacement of Stroessner to establish a regime similar to the one that succeeded Jean-Claude Duvalier's overthrown regime in Haiti.

Campos said that "the Paraguayan dictatorship directly serves Washington's interests," even militarily. He explained that the United States is building a military base near the Paraguayan border with Brazil and Bolivia in order to station a rapid deployment force there that will be at the service of the reactionary forces in the Southern Cone.

According to comments reported by the Czechoslovakian news agency CTK, Campos said that these forces have secretly entered the country following a pact with Stroessner. They are based at Pozo Colorado, in the Chaco region, where they are being trained in antiguerrilla warfare. The regime, he added, is also financed by contributions from Nazi war criminals and international drug traffickers.

Paraguay has been under a state of seige since 1954, according to Campos, who, in conclusion, recalled that Antonio Maidana, the Paraguayan Communist secretary general who would have been 70 years old on 25 October, disappeared after he was kidnapped by the police.

BRIEFS

JANUARY-AUGUST INFLATION FIGURES -- The Consumer Price Index in August increased 1.5 percent, putting the inflation rate for the year (January-August) at 19.1 percent. The annual inflation rate now stands at 26.8 percent. [Summary] [Asuncion EL DIARIO NOTICIAS in Spanish 1 Oct 86 p 12 PY]

FIRST AIDS VICTIM REPORTED -- Dr Fidel Moreno Gonzalez, director of the Epidemiology and Zoonosis Department of the Health Ministry, has reported that a 23-year-old man is the first AIDS victim in Paraguay. The man, who has not been identified, was a hemophiliac who contracted the illness through blood transfusions. He died on 1 October in the Tropical Medicine Institute. [Summary] [Asuncion HOY in Spanish 14 Oct 86 p 7 PY]

JUDGE WANTS MILITARY COURTS TO TRY TERRORISTS

PY222201 Paris AFP in Spanish 0203 GMT 22 Oct 86

[Text] Lima, 21 Oct (AFP) -- Peruvian Supreme Court President Hector Beltran Rivera's proposal that terrorist cases be tried by the military courts today prompted conflicting reactions from political leaders.

Senator Guillermo Larco, president of the Senate Defense Commission and leader of the ruling Social Democratic American Popular Revolutionary Alliance, APRA, said he considered the proposal a great mistake.

However, the Alfonso Barrantes, president of the United Left Marxist front, the second political force in Peru, said that the executive branch has the authority to accept Beltran's proposal.

The weekly OIGA reflects the opinion of the conservative opposition, commenting that the 14 October attack which left Admiral Geronimo Cafferata wounded makes it clearer than ever that only by deciding that terrorist should be tried by the military courts will the horror of letting free the murderers of citizens and policemen end.

Yesterday, in referring to the wave of terrorist attacks, the Supreme Court president siad that trials involving terrorist actions should be placed in the hands of the military courts, because many times judged do not condemn those guilty of terrorism because the evidence is not clear or convincing. Senator Larco also said that the main difficulties involved in the trial of terrorist come from the pressure and threats against judges, adding that the proposal is a serious mistake because it does not guarantee a fair trial. Larco proposed the creation of ad hoc courts, which, unlike the civilian courts, would be able to operate without the threat of coercion. These ad hoc courts would have the same powers of civilian courts, but they would be special courts operating without much publicity, he said.

The debate began when it was discovered that Maria Saire Heredia, also known as Comrade Olga, who participated in the attack against Adm Cafferata, was released from jail on 4 August after being prosecuted on terrorist charges in 1983. The court that prosecuted her and other alleged terrorists on charges of involvement in several attacks and in the killing of five policemen did not find enough evidence to give her a longer sentence.

This time Saire was arrested in a slum, in the hideout of a terrorist who was wounded during the shoot-out that followed the attack on Adm Cafferata. The police maintain that Saire participated in the attack.

ALVA CASTRO ASSERTS ECONOMIC BALANCE 'POSITIVE"

PY221426 Lima Canal 9 Television in Spanish 0315 GMT 22 Oct 86

[Text] Prime Minister Luis Alva Castro today made an assessment of the country's economic situation, which he termed extremely positive. Alva Castro this afternoon met with the government economic team to assess the government's economic achievements during the 14 months of the APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] government.

Present at the meeting, held at the Hotel del Pueblo in Santa Clara, were Central Reserve Bank President Leonel Figueroa, Economy Vice Minister Gustavo (Assaderday), Enrique Cornejo, chairman of the Commerce Institute, Jose Palomino Redes, president of CONAVE [expansion unknown], and Victor Lopez Garcia, head of Popular Cooperation and government economic adviser.

At the end of the meeting, the prime minister said the economic balance is positive, and production has increased 6.5 percent between January and September 1986, thus surpassing current expectations.

[Begin Alva Castro recording] We have managed to reduce the price increased spiral, that is, we are beginning to control inflaction. Although we have an inflation rate considered high by many, we have reduced it from the 250 percent annual rate which we inherited on 28 July 1985, to 44 percent of accrued inflation between January and September 1986. This is a very important government achievement. We have reduced the price increase spiral as demanded by most Peruvians.

Today we verified that production has increased beyond the terms announced by the Peruvian president and government as a national goal to achieved in 1986. We are reaching that objective, and some say we have considerably surpassed it. We promised an increase of 6 percent, and today we have an accrued growth which is above 6.5 percent. This is really positive growth. In Latin America, Peru will grow more than any other country, except for Brazil, which is a giant and a model for us, because of the important development it has achieved. Of course it is very possible that Brazil will surpass our percentage, however, we are going to break a record which should fill all Peruvians with enthusiasm, faith, and hope. [end recording]

TERRORIST ATTACK TOWN HALL, APRA OFFICE IN SUPE

PY231418 Paris AFP in Spanish 0513 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] Lima, 22 Oct (AFP) -- The police tonight reported that a terrorist commando today hurled dynamite sticks at the town hall building in the city of Supe, 180 km north of Lima, virtually destroying it. No casualties have been reported. The subversives, who presumably belong to the Shining Path organization, also hurled dynamite sticks at the office of the ruling APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] party in Supe and at a branch office of the Banco de la Nacion.

FOREIGN MINISTER MAKES OFFICIAL VISIT TO FRANCE

PY201803 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Oct 86

[Text] Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias, who is on an official visit to France, will meet President Francois Mitterrand on 21 October. Iglesias will inform the French president that Uruguayan President Julio Sanguinetti has accepted the invitation he received to visit France. This information has been reported by the Paris press. This afternoon Iglesias will meet with UNESCO director Amadou Mahtar M'Bow and with members of the Uruguayan delegation to UNESCO. From Paris, Iglesias is due to travel to Geneva, where he will attend the Uruguay [name given to next GATT session] round of GATT talks.

PCU DENIES INVOLVEMENT IN ATTACK ON TFP OFFICES

PY201846 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1741 GMT 18 Oct 86

[Text] Montevideo, 18 Oct (EFE) -- Uruguayan Communist Party (PCU) Press Secretary Esteban Valenti has "categorically" rejected accusations that his party is involved in the attack perpetrated early this morning against the rightist organization Tradition, Family, and Property (TFP).

Valenti told EFE that the PCU "clearly, absolutely, and categorically" rejects "any type of attack." "We, the Uruguayan Communists, have a long history. We have never used this method, and now that we have regained democracy after so many years of struggle, we believe it is most appropriate to express our rejection of these methods."

This statement refuted the comments of TFP director Alberto Arcos Perez, who blamed "the terrorists and communists who do not face their responsibilities as we do," referring to a bomb which exploded at the TFP headquarters. No one was injured but damage was reported.

Valenti said: "I doubt that any leftist progressive organization is involved in this type of event, especially at this time when the human rights issue is being discussed and the planting of a bomb, which would disturb the political atmosphere and blame the left, would be advantageous for the right." The PCU press secretary demanded "a clear, prompt, and thorough investigation, to include even the victims of the attack because it is significant that immediately after the attack a communique was issued,, accusing the communists." Valenti stated that the TFP "is seeking some publicity, because since the end of the de facto regime, with which it was very close, the TFP has been isolated."

The attack against the TFP headquarters occurred today at 0215 (0515 GMT). Windows were shattered and damage done to its facade and that of neighboring houses. No injuries have been reported.

DEPUTIES CONDEMN U.S. SENATE'S 'MEDDLING'

PA232205 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1955 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Report by Hector Gonzalez Perez]

[Text] The Chamber of Deputies strongly condemned the U.S. Senate's intentions of imposing sanctions on Mexico in connection with drug trafficking.

In a debate that lasted approximately 2 hours, parliamentarians from the PRI, PSUM, [Unified Socialist Party of Mexico], PPS [Popular Socialist Party], PAN [National Action Party], and PRT [Workers' Revolutionary Party] considered that the U.S. Senate has no right to impose sanctions on any country. Arturo Whaley of the PSUM said that a sick society that wants to blame others for its drug addiction problems is a desperate society.

Meanwhile, David Jimenez, president of the Chamber of Deputies' Justice Committee, said that in fighting drug trafficking, Mexico does not hide the problem, but instead faces it and legally punishes those who profit at the expense of the people's health.

PRT Deputy Pedro Penaloza strongly condemned the U.S. senator's meddling in Mexico's domestic affairs. He said that in dealing with the drug addiction problem, the United States is seeking a way out by blaming others for it ills.

U.S. Lacks 'Moral Authority'

PA231545 Mexico City Red Nacional 7 Imevision Television in Spanish 0500 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Interview with Mexican Deputy David Jimenez Gonzalez by Hector Gonzalez in the "Today's Interview" program -- live or recorded]

[Text] [Gonzalez] We are here with Deputy David Jimenez Gonzalez, chairman of the Justice Committee of the 53d Legislature. He will comment on the U.S. Senate's efforts to impose sanctions against our country over the issue of drug trafficking. Deputy Jimenez, what moral authority should a country have to sanction our country, which is sovereign and independent?

[Jimenez] First of all, no country has the moral authority to sanction the conduct or the political will of another government that has established a number of actions within its own territory to fight drug trafficking. Mexico is a sovereign and independent country. Mexico also respects the sovereignty and independence of other countries in regard to this aspect. Regarding your question, which is linked to the Mexican Government's efforts to fight drug trafficking, the Mexican Government's actions have set an example in Latin America. The Mexican president recently expressed this when he opened the meeting that he had convened in Puerto Vallarta. It was a meeting of various attorneys general and justice ministers of the entire American continent, including U.S. Attorney General Meese. The president said there that, in the face of this great evil, big solutions must be found to combat it. However, objectivity in the analysis, and intense, honest, and joint efforts are necessary so that in a harmonious and coordinated way all the governments of this area can carry out joint actions to combat drug trafficking.

Mexico has already left an indelible mark because of its actions in which it has invested many economic resources, billions of pesos, and in which many lives of our soldiers and policemen under the Attorney General's Office have been sacrificed. This has been done to carry out a vigorous campaign against drug trafficking and to pursue these kinds of criminals. These are criminals who due to their dangerousness meddle in different areas of our society. That is why we believe that the U.S. Senate's request to President Reagan to establish a number of legal and economic measures against our country is unjust.

[Gonzalez] In the Puerto Vallarta meeting to which you refer, U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese described President Miguel de la Madrid and his government as champions in the fight against drug trafficking. How is it possible that such a high-ranking authority as Edwin Meese came here to tell Mexico that we are champions and in the United States there are efforts to apply sanctions against us?

[Jimenez] Well, look, there are a number of sectors which have sought to discredit the actions that the Mexican Government has implemented against drug trafficking. As you said, U.S. Attorney General Meese set us as an example, not only in Latin America, but worldwide as a country that has faced this problem with full determination and energy.

As I said earlier, Mexico has invested many resources in this. In the "Pacific 7" operation alone, which is being carried out in northwestern Mexico, more than 1 billion pesos will be invested. These are funds that come from the Mexican state. At the same time, a considerable number of personnel of the Mexican Army, along with the Federal Judicial Police, have also been deployed for this effort. In the last 2 or 3 years, we have lost close to 300 soldiers in the fight against drug traffickers. In 1986, more than 8 billion pesos have been invested to confront this international crime.

That is why the Mexican president's call for the meeting of all these justice ministers and attorneys general in Puerto Vallarta had the basic objective of establishing joint actions among the various governments sos that they can fight the drug traffickers and drug trafficking. As the Puerto Vallarta declaration states, this should be done without harming or affecting the sovereignty of the states and by respecting the constitutional and legal framework of each country.

[Gonzalez] The Senate members include Jesse Helms.

[Jimenez] That is right. Jesse Helms is one of the members of the U.S. Senate. We already know his record. We are aware of the unjustified statements that he has made and that could be considered slanderous and offensive. What the U.S. authorities should do is not only look at what other countries are doing to fight drug trafficking, but also practice self-criticism and think deeply about this so that their own government institutions will look into what they are doing to prevent that huge consumption of drugs in the United States. At this time, there are approximately 30 million drug addicts in the United States. A number as large as 30 million drug addicts is not a slight matter. Instead, it implies a very concerted and intense action by this mafia of drug traffickers operating in the United States. I think that instead of taking measures, such as those that the U.S. Senate is seeking against our country, it should adopt actions, tactics, or strategies to prevent that drug consumption and also production in its own country. Through television, we see how all these drugs are distributed, marketed, and consumed in the United States. We think that the United States should establish mechanisms and carry out actions to stop this huge consumption of drugs there.

[Gonzalez] How do we really interpret this attempt to apply sanctions against Mexico? Isn't the buyer more guilty than the seller?

[Jimenez] Look, there is an agreement among all the countries involved in this type of crime that both the producers and the consumers must undertake vigorous joint actions to combat this crime. Now then, this type of crime is not like the traditional type of crime that is committed by one individual. Instead, it affects and involves a number of people. It is a crime that has evolved which affects a number of social structures and foundations. Therefore, it is very important that, instead of criticizing what one specific country does or does not do, the United States should take its own measures to prevent this type of problem in its own country.

This crime of drug trafficking has not respected borders. We all know that the governments of countries that are classified as producers carry out actions to combat the planting of poppy and marijuana and the processing of coca into cocaine. In this latter case, Mexico is using as a springboard to introduce it into the United States. We have been very respectful of the actions that each country has carried out to fight drug trafficking. As the Mexican attorney general has said, we value the measures that each of the South American countries have adopted to combat it. In truth, the efforts undertaken by Mexico are exemplary. Mexico has not given respite to its campaign against drug trafficking. It has adopted energetic legal and administrative measures. Mexico has implemented a number of actions to energetically fight and punish drug traffickers. It is not only a fight against the distributors, but also the producers. Last year, in the first period of ordinary sessions of the Congress, the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate adopted a number of reforms of the Penal Code in order to establish more vigorous sanctions against drug trafficking.

[Gonzalez] Do you think that Mexico is a country of drug addicts?

[Jimenez] Of course not. In Mexico, the consumption of drugs is to some extent minimum. It is not at the level of the United States. The United States is obviously one of the countries that has this very evident and serious problem. Nevertheless, this must not lead us to stop taking all the necessary preventive measures so that we will not turn into a drug-consuming country. Fortunately, we are not. We are a country in which in some areas there is cultivation and production of marijuana and poppy, but not cocaine. Our country does not have that characteristic. Mexico has not lost objectively regarding the problem. Instead, it has confronted it. This campaign carried out by the government has been useful for Mexico and even for U.S. society. This is very important. If Mexico had not adopted these measures, and if it did not have this political will to fight drug trafficking, what would happen to the United States if there were an entire country producing these drugs because of the demand in the United States? The campaign being carried out by the Attorney General's Office, the Armed Forces, the Army, and the Navy is to vigorously and seriously combat this problem. We are doing something. The results are evident in the seizure and destruction of and in the confiscation of drugs by our authorities.

RELATIONS CAN BE DAMAGED BY AID TO CONTRAS

FL230304 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0017 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Excerpts] United Nations, New York, 22 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Ambassador to the United Nations Mario Moya Palencia said today that if Latin America refuses to acknowledge the validity of the principles of nonintervention and self determination of the peoples, our viability as independent and sovereign nations will be null.

Speaking on behalf of Mexico to the UN Security Council during the debate on Nicaragua's request that the United States respect the World Court's decision that called on Washington to end military aid to the contras, Moya Palencia added:

The disagreement with the domestic political process of any country, and especially the questioning of the legality of its government, does not justify under any circumstance the adoption of unilateral measures that would overthrow the government or deny court decisions. To accept the above, said the Mexican diplomat, would imply lack of recognition and negate the principles of international order suggested in the UN charter. [passage omitted]

Moya Palencia said by violating international law and relegating a negotiated solution to the Central American crisis, it is evident that a military presence in the region will increase, new weapons will be introduced, and the possibility of a generalized conflict in the area will become more likely. Mexico does not hesitate to call the financial assistance to the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries a historical, political, and legal error that could seriously damage relations between the United States and Latin America, said Moya Palencia. [passage omitted]

OPEC'S PLANS FOR EXPORT REDUCTIONS SUPPORTED

FL231757 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0243 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 22 Oct. (NOTIMEX) -- Alfredo del Mazo, secretary of Energy, Mines, and Parastatal Industry, has said if OPEC decides to extend until December the reduction of oil exports, Mexico will support such decision. The official indicated that Mexico will continue with the 10 percent adjustment of its oil exports as it did last August, but explained that this kind of measure will depend on the circumstances of the market and the strategy needed to protect domestic interests. [passage omitted]

COLOMBIA DISCUSSES BREAK IN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

FL231642 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0435 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] Bogota, 22 Oct. (NOTIMEX) -- Sectors of the National Congress are discussing the possibility of breaking diplomatic relations with Mexico to protest the alleged tortures and deaths of some Colombians who were detained in that country.

Deputy Hernando Betancur, from the Ruling Liberal Party, said if 6 years ago the administration of president Julio Cesar Turbay ended relations with Cuba to make them respect Colombia, the same thing can happen with Mexico.

During a congress session, almost a dozen complaints were read of Colombians who sustained that they had been tortured by the Mexican police after being unfairly detained. Likewise, it was reported that there are over 500 registered complaints of abuses against Colombians in Mexico. The Foreign Ministry was also informed that members of the Colombian diplomatic mission in Mexico City have not paid attention to the complaints and tht they have not helped the approximately 800 Colombian immates who are in Mexican prisons.

SOVIET UNION TO BOOST FISHERY INDUSTRY

FL231606 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0413 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Oct, (NOTIMEX) -- Alfonso Lopez Cruz, Fisheries Secretariat International Affairs director general, today said the Mexican fishery industry will receive a large boost from the Soviet Union.

During a brief interview, the official, who just returned from Moscow, explained that thanks to the signing of the Soviet Union-Mexico bilateral agreement at the mixed meeting between the two countries, Mexico will receive this year over $450 million for tuna capture and processing. The official said the Soviet Union is the top fishing country with 11 million tons, thus, surpassing Japan.

Lopez Cruz reported that this year Mexico will produce 1.5 million tons of fish in general. Shellfish sales will amount to 17,500 tons. Some 22,500 tons will be sold in 1987, and it is estimated that 27,500 tons will be sold in 1988. Finally, he said the Soviet Union is willing to exchange scientific and technological information in the species called (filapia) and to participate in a program to produce hybrids in the Latin American region.

PETRICIOLI COMMENTS ON 1987 FINANCE PROGRAM

PA230442 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] At a news conference this afternoon, Gustavo Petricioli, secretary of finance and public credit, announced that the 1987 finance program, contingent upon congressional approval, entails a public investment of $8 billion, which will principally come from Mexican resources. The finance secretary is confident that before December, individual contracts will be signed with the 500 banks that have extended credit to our country.

BRIEFS

ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN REPORT -- Defense Secretary General Juan Arevalo Gardoqui and Navy Secretary Admiral Miguel Angel Gomez Ortega have delivered a report to President Miguel de la Madrid on the Army and Navy's anti-drug activities. Gen Arevalo Gardoqui said that in the past 2 months, the Army has destroyed 11,654 poppy and 46,186 marijuana planations. He added that during the same period, the Army discovered 15 clandestine airstrips and 13 drug traffickers' camps, and arrested 9 foreign and 1,279 Mexican drug traffickers. Adm Gomez Orega reported that during 1986, the Navy has stopped 20 ground vehicles and boats, destroyed 16,636 marjuana plantations, and confiscated 242 kg of cocaine and 107,413,304 kg of marijuana. [Text] [Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in spanish 1955 GMT 23 Oct 86 PA]

PRD COMMUNIQUE RECOMMENDS MINISTERS RESIGN

PA231536 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1228 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Excerpts] The National Executive Committee [CEN] and the Political Commission of the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] have asked those PRD party members who are cabinet ministers and deputy ministers or directors, deputy directors, managers, and deputy managers of independent government agencies or government institutions to place their positions at the disposal of the party. This decision was adopted during a meeting of the CEN and the Political Commission.

Here is the text of the communique setting forth this decision. The CEN and Political Commission of the PRD report:

The following national political and economic matters were examined during a meeting held on 22 October 1986 in Panama City.

1. The situation of PRD officials in the executive Branch.
2. The situation of the Social Security Fund.
3. The sale of leasing of [National Firm Machinery Enterprise] and the IMB [Agricultural Marketing Institute] granaries.

After said examination, the PRD has resolved:

1. The CEN and Political Commission of the PRD ask those party members who are currently ministers and deputy ministers or directors, deputy directors, managers and deputy managers of independent and semi-independent government agencies to place their positions at the disposal of the CEN as of the date of issuance of this communique, to evaluate their executive, technical, professional, and political actions.

After said evaluation, the party leadership will recommend to the Executive Branch the changes and adjustments that it believes need be carried out within the structure of the national government. [passage omitted]

Members Offer Resignations

PA231302 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] Following a 5-hour meeting, the political committee of the Democratic Revolutionary Party, PRD, whose president is Dr Romulo Escobar Bethancourt, agreed to request all of its members holding any position in President Eric Arturo Delvalle's cabinet to offer to resign their posts. The meeting, held behind closed doors, made an analysis of the country's political and economic situation, evaluated PRD members' participation in the executive branch, the situation of the Social Security Fund, and the issue of selling or renting Endema [National Farm Machinery Enterprise] and the IMA [Agricultural and Livestock Marketing Institute] silos.

The PRD will evaluate the technical, professional, and political abilities of their fellow party members who hold public posts ad will make recommendations to the president. It does not accept any reforms or changes to the Social Security System and recommends that the president report to the nation on the state of the institution and on a program to be carried out in a specific period of time. By this afternoon, Dr Escobar Bethancourt had already received answers from the officials to the request.

[Begin Escobar recording] The officials who are attending this meeting and who belong to the Political Committee or who were especially invited to the meeting have sent the following documents.

Dr Romulo Escobar Bethancourt, PRD President:

Dear Dr Escobar Bethancourt: In abidance of the decision adopted today by the Political Committee, I hereby place at the disposition of the National Executive Committee [CEN] of my party the post of director general of the Special Rehabilitation Institute of Panama.

Yours truly,

[signed] Maritza Herrera.

The post of director general of the IMA, Horacio Rodriguez [applause], the post of deputy minister of planning and economic policy, Ovigildo Herrera, the post of deputy general of the IMA, Manuel Ducasa [applause]

These are the fellow party members. The deputy minister of the MIDA [agricultural development ministry] who is presenting his [letter]. Here we have a very special one that is specifically the director of the National Port Authority, who is presenting this offer the very same day he has been confirmed in his post. [end recording]

A few minutes ago, the Ifarhu [Human Resources Education and Training Institute] director, Humberto Lopez Tirone, also presented the requested letter. Meanwhile, Pedro Pereira ruled out any possibility that his argument with Housing Minister Roberto Velasquez will have any influence on the future of that official.

A few minutes ago, the top leader of the PRD Managerial Front, Mario Rognoni, told Televisora Nacional that he has told all of his members that no official is to present a resignation to the CEN. He has called for a meeting tomorrow at 1200 at the InterChina Restaurant.

DELVALLE SAYS NO CABINET CHANGES PLANNED

PA231928 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle said today that there will be no changes in his Cabinet. In statements to RPC Television reporters minutes before entering the Presidential Palace, Delvalle said: I am the one who orders the changes here, and I also decide when such changes will be made. Delvalle's remarks come after the National Executive Committee [CEN] of the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party] headed by Romulo Escobar Bethancourt demanded that all its ministers, deputy ministers, and directors of institutions place their positions at the disposal of the PRD. Denying that there will be Cabinet changes, Delvalle said:

[Begin recording] As the public knows, in the past few days there has been infighting among various PRD factions. The entire country knows about this because it has been publicized through the press, radio, and television. I believe this might be the reason the party CEN issued a communique asking its highest leaders to place their government positions at the disposal of the party. In reality, when a person occupies a high-ranking government post and represents a party, his position is always at the disposal of the president of the Republic and his party. I think it was unnecessary to do this, and I think that in some way it harms the dignity of these distinguished PRD members who hold high government posts. The president of the Republic is definitely the one who makes decisions on changes. I am the one who decides who I change and when. At this time, there is no change in the Cabinet. [end recording]

PRD LEADER CONCEDES DELVALLE'S AUTHORITY

PA232222 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2110 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] Panama, 23 Oct (ACAN-EFE) -- The top leader of the majority Panamanian Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] admitted today that Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle is the only one who has the authority to make changes in the government.

Yesterday, the PRD Executive Committee asked all the government officials who belong to the party to resign from their positions to allow the party's directorate to make a technical and political assessment of their work.

Today, President Delvalle described that measure as an "attack on the dignity" of the PRD members who are part of his cabinet and reasserted that he has not planned "any changes" in his team.

PRD President Romulo Escobar Bethancourt met today with President Delvalle at the presidential palace. At the end of the meeting, he denied any "antagonism" between the PRD and the head of the state, who is the leader of the Republican Party.

Bethancourt added: "I assert that President Delvalle's government and the PRD are working with great harmony and that our party is only carrying out activities characteristic of its internal organization."

Bethancourt said that the PRD continues firm in its position, with the "exception" that after having studied "all the cases," it will decide whether or not to support the PRD government officials, and later on "suggest" possible changes to the president.

Bethancourt added: "But always understand that it is the president who has the authority to organize or reorganize his cabinet."

The PRD leader said that as of this morning, over 30 PRD members had put their government offices at the disposition of the PRD Executive Committee.

The PRD has 6 of the 12 ministers in Delvalle's cabinet, which has not been altered since its official formation 13 months ago.

PRD Denies Resignation Aim

PA231618 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 23 Oct 86 p 1-A

[By Flor Quintero]

[Text] Luis Gomez, Revolutionary Democratic Party [PRD] legislator has denied to LA PRENSA that the request made by the National Political Commission (CEN) [as published] of his party is a pressure mechanism to provoke the resignation of President of the Republic Eric Arturo Delvalle.

Nevertheless, he admitted that the officialist sector at the Legislative Assembly is exerting pressure on President Delvalle to make changes in the Cabinet as soon as possible adding people who can continue with the Torrijist principles.

Luis Gomez clearly said that the PRD is not exerting pressure on Delvalle so that he resign because "he is performing his role."

Explaining the reasons that caused the request by the CEN of the PRD to all its members in the Cabinet to resign their posts, Legislator Luis Gomez said that "the Political Committee will carry out a revision, an appraisal of the role each official is performing in coordination and compliance with the principles of our party...which are the Torrijist principles of loyalty and honesty in the administration of the public matters."

In this regard, Luis Gomez said: "The Party has given evidence of much determination and maturity to help strengthen the party's guidelines. We expect that the remaining parties that are members of the National Democratic Union will take this same decision because it would be regrettable if only the PRD set this example."

PALA URGES CLARIFICATION; PRD CONFIRMS 'CRISIS'

PA220114 Panama City EXTRA in Spanish 21 Oct 86 p 26

[Text] Ramon Sieiro, general secretary of the Labor Party (PALA), has challenged President Eric Arturo Delvalle to decide soon if changes will be made regarding the ministers of state and the directors of autonomous and semi-autonomous agencies.

"I would like to invite the president of the republic to meet with the parties that carried him to power so that, once and for all, he can explain to the country the executive branch's stand, the reorganization of his team."

Sieiro, who is the brother-in-law of General Manuel Antonio Noriega, the Defense Forces' strongman, announced that a meeting of top UNADE [National Democratic Union] leaders with President Delvalle to clarify these issues could be held "in the next few days, so that this matter, which is causing such a stir among the Panamanian people, can be resolved."

The PALA general secretary warned that his party will not allow the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party] to reduce the PALA's political control.

"We will not lose anything. We will move forward and gain (more control) if necessary, but the word lose does not exist in the PALA dictionary. We want to increase the control we already have and, if possible, to expand it." No one can be opposed to this.

Meanwhile, PRD Legislator Rigoberto Paredes confirmed reports provided by EXTRA concerning a crisis within the Delvalle cabinet.

Paredes emphasized: "I am almost sure there will be cabinet changes. A situation exists which is drawing us closer to that. These changes could occur late this year; they could also take place early next year, but within the next 3 or 4 months."

Regarding this subject, it has been said in official circles that Jose I. Blandon, the current director of IRHE [Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification], will be appointed finance and treasury minister.

Darisnel Espino, coordinator of the Defense Forces' "A Minute for Peace" campaign, will be the new head of MIDA [Agricultural Development Ministry].

We were told that Cesar Rodriguez Maylin, the director of Digedecom [General Directorate of Community Development] will leave that institution to take a ministerial job; his possible replacement could be Carlos "Pepe" Vasquez.

NORIEGA EXPLAINS DEFENSE FORCES' PEACE ROLE

PA231310 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Remarks by General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Defense Forces; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] It is evident that the work being carried out by the Defense Forces is not political and demagogic in nature; it exists and constitutes a contribution to peace, an effective and tangible contribution to peace.

Hence, all our actions... [changes thought] violence is abated to the extent that the Armed Forces carry out positive actions to upgrade health, construct buildings, and improve the welfare of the people.

Therefore, we believe that this fraternity exists among the civic forces; that is, the civic forces in the popular sense, the civic forces, the active forces of each group of people in fraternal unity with the authorities, in fraternal unity with good-willed men. It is not enough to say this during speeches; people should practice what they preach in the countryside.

For example, we have Father Karamanitis of San Miquelito. He is a man who not only preaches, but acts. He is respected by the community. This is what we really want. As the saying goes: God helps those who help themselves. That is our position. We believe that violence is abated to the extent that men keep their feet on the ground and strive to achieve genuine peace.

BRIEFS

NEW JAPANESE AMBASSADOR -- In a special ceremony at the presidential palace, Teruyuki Sawai, the new Japanese ambassador to Panama, presented his credentials to Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle. [Summary] [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 19 Oct 86 P E-2 PA]

ENVOY TO CANADA NAMED -- In a brief protocol ceremony to be held 21 October, Dominador Kaiser Bazan will present his credentials as new Panamanian ambassador to Canada. Bazan is also the ambassador to the United States. [Summary] [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 21 Oct 86 p A-1 PA]

EL SALVADOR

GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN REJECTS FMLN-FDR MESSAGE

PA231518 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] The following is the response the deputy communications minister [not further identified] has given to a statement made yesterday by the FMLN-FDR:

[Begin deputy communications minister recording] I belive that in a live call from Mexico, a FMLN-FDR leader issued a message to the country. I want to repond to that on behalf of the government, speaking very seriously and very calmly. It is a source of concern to see a nation-wide communication media participate in this type of action at a very difficult moment, such as the one we are enduring right now, because such actions introduce feelings of division and enmity and such statements to separate the Salvadoran people.

I want to summarize the message broadcast by YSKL. It contained the following elements: a call for confrontation among social sectors and classes in El Salvador, and a call for division among the various sectors currently working to help the earthquake victims. The message insidiously claimed that the international aid arriving in our fatherland is being misused, and that government officials, military men, businessmen, and representatives of the labor sector are poorly distributing the aid and getting rich as a result The message also claimed that the government is boycotting aid from abroad -- humanitarian aid that is -- and preventing it from reaching the country.

I want to say that the act of using the suffering of the people, the pain that all Salvadorans are experiencing, to achieve political and military goals, sending messages to the people, and inciting the people in a Machiavellian way with absolute falsehoods, deserves our strong condemnation. I have called to explained this point of view because the government, like all the other sectors currently working to help the victims and to initiate national reconsrcution, are not going to use their time to give explanations to people who are trying to sow division and create problems in the country. This explanation will be enough. We condemn those who are trying to use the suffering of the people as well as the media that may lend itslef to such actions in our country.

I appeal to the communication media in our country and especially to this radio station, which broadcasts that news, to gain awareness of the situation we are going through in the country and of the responsible attitude we must assume. I want to state very objectively and clearly that, at this moment, neither calls for class struggles in our country nor the broadcasting of such calls are responsible actions. At this moment, neither the mentioning of differences among the country's various sectors nor broadcasting such messages is a responsible action because what we need now is a call for unity and for work by all sectors, regardless of social class, religion, political creed, or whatever.

This is why I am issuing this clarification, because the government is open-minded regarding the international aid arriving in our country, and it is accepting all international aid. Our position, which is the psoition stated by the president, it to condemn violence regardless of where it may come from and to accept humanitarian aid, regardless of where it may come from. This is the philosophy of the government and all the sectors currently working on that task that nature -- the earthquake that tremendously affected our people -- created for us.

The objective of the FMLN-FDR message is to have the government abandon the work it has been carrying out alongside the other sectors and dedicate itself to discussions of a political nature that at this moment have no importance, are unproductive, and must not be presented to our country because what we have to do is to work in a united way to reconstruct the fatherland.

Another FMLN-FDR objective is to have the government adopt coercive measures against the media so that it may have an argument that it can present to the international media and say that, in addition to doing all the things those organizations claim the government does, the government has adopted measures against freedom of expression in our country, something that we are not going to do.

That is why I decided to directly call this radio station to repsonsibly state our point of view and explain to the media its responsibilities, but we are not going to adopt any forceful measure. We believe that reason, feelings, unity, faith, and the hopes of our people demand that all sectors -- the media, labor, business, political, production -- exert joint efforts to rescue our people, to work together to help the victims and to reconstruct our fatherland.

We say: El Salvador is standing up, and we are moving forward together. I wanted to make this clarification in a very serious way in view of the situation created this morning when the message from members of the FMLN-FDR, who are out of the country, was broadcast. [end recording]

GUATEMALA

OFFICIAL CONFIDENT ON PAYING 1987 FOREIGN DEBT

PA232054 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 23 Oct 86 p 5

[Text] Guatemalan Bank President Fedrico Linares commented on the $700-million foreign debt that must be paid next year.

He said that the amount to be paid in 1987, in terms of capital and considering the negotiations that have been conducted, is approximately $350 million.

He labeled that as a manageable amount and said that it is still subject to negotiations.

By way of example, he mentioned Guatemala's debt with the FRG. Linares said FRG authorities were very receptive. He said that in Novermber, a new way will be presented to pay approximately DM38 million.

Linares explained that this amount is due for operations that are still to be covered by bonds [bonificarse]. In addition, DM9 million of the Government of the Republic. [sentence as published]

The official felt that if these renegotiations and the negotiations with commercial banks -- chiefly from the United States -- go through, the situation form 1987 will be highly manageable.

The Guatemalan Bank president remarked that paying the foreign debt in 1987 represented between 25 and 28 percent of the foreign exchange revenues from exports. This amount would have to be used to pay capital and interest rates.

HONDURAS

LOPEZ CONTRERAS DISCUSSES ABRAMS VISIT

PA230434 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2308 GMT 22 Oct 86

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 22 Oct (ACAN-EFE) -- Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras today said that the United States will not involve Honduras in its plans to help the Nicaraguan "contras."

Lopez Contreras, who also participated in the meeting held this morning with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs Elliott Abrams and President Jose Azcona Hoyo, said that bilateral issues and the Central American situation were discussed during the meeting. The Honduran foreign minister stressed that, during the senior U.S. Government official's visit, the United States reiterated that Honduras would not be involved in U.S. plans to help the "contras."

Abrams arrived in Tegucigalpa today with William Walker, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for Central America, General John Galvin, commander in chief of the U.S. Southern Command, headquartered in Panama, and a group of advisers and CIA agents. Lopez Contreras considered it normal for CIA agents to accompany Abrams, which he said was "due to security reasons," and for a normal exchange of viewpoints on intelligence matters between two friendly countries." [quotation marks as received]. The U.S. officials and President Azcona also discussed U.S. aid for the next fiscal year and the distribution of the recently approved $300 million aid package for Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica.

Lopez Contreras said that the visitors did not specifiy the amount of aid to be disbursed next year, or how the aforementioned $300 million will be divided up among the countries. Abrams told President Azcona Hoyo that the United States will not reduce its economic aid to Central America, as it will do with other Latin American countries. U.S. economic assistance for Honduras this fiscal year will total $122 8 million, plus $82.4 million in military aid, including $20 million in emergency aid.

Abrams also obtained information on the military operations taking place in the Honduran Atlantic region, where the Honduran Army has been pursuing a guerrilla group since early October. Lopez Contreras said that the task performed by the soldiers in the Atlantic region is related to the country's domestic security.

He also announced that the newly appointed U.S. Ambassador to Honduras Everett Briggs will arrive in Tegucigalpa on 1 November. The U.S. has been without a representative since last July when John Arthur Ferch was abruptly relieved of his post. According to top U.S. Government officials in Washington, Elliott Abrams was not satisfied with Ambassador Ferch's work in Honduras, which caused his removal.

Abrams Meets Azcona, Regalado

PA231240 Paris AFP in Spanish 0035 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 22 Oct (AFP) -- Elliott Abrams, the assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, met here today with President Jose Azcona and General Humberto Regalado, commander of the Armed Forces, with whom he analyzed the regional crisis.

Abrams -- who also visited Guatemala and Costa Rica -- arrived today accompanied by William Walker, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for Central America, at a time when the Reagan administration is about to deliver aid for $100 million to the Nicaraguan "contras." The funneling of that aid through Honduran territory, and the training of rebels here, were the topics discussed at the meeting, according to press sources from the Presidential House. However, neither Abrams, nor the official spokesmen, nor the U.S. Embassy, would specify the topics discussed. Abrams simply said that the meeting was "very useful and covered bilateral and regional matters concerning Central America."

U.S. Embassy spokesman Arthur Skop told AFP that "a variety of topics" were analyzed, but did not specify what the subjects were. Regarding the case of Eugene Hasenfus, the only survivor among the occupants of a plane transporting supplies for the contras that was shot down in Nicaragua, Skop said that his government respects the congressional ban on sending weapons to the rebels, which was in effect until last Friday. [sentence as received] Hasenfus reported that out of 10 flights, 4 departed from the El Aguacate Base in the Honduran central-eastern Olancho Department, which has become the main supply center for "contras," according to press sources. However, Azcona has previously said that Honduras would not give facilities for the delivery of supplies to the "contras," or permit the training by U.S. Green Berets here. Abrams was reportedly going to try to change that position during his visit.

In any event, the anti-Sandinist "contras" have important camps along the Nicaraguan border, and according to residents in El Paraiso, they exclusively occupy 450 square km in that area, which they call "New Nicaragua." Based on the large number of "contras" in El Aguacate, Olancho, and El Paraiso, local analysts consider it "a fact" that the million dollar aid for the contras will be channeled through Honduras, as is currently happening.

Abrams met separately in Tegucigalpa with Gen Regalado and other military commanders and then with President Azcona and the commander of the Armed Forces. Abrams visited Guatemala and Costa Rica yesterday and today arrived in Tegucigalpa, from where he departed for Washington at noon.

Contreras on U.S. Aid

PA231913 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0100 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Interview with Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras by unidentified reporter at the Government House in Tegucigalpa; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] [Words indistinct] aid to the Nicaraguan contras in Honduran territory?

[Lope Contreras] No, quite the contrary. Honduras has been assured that the aid the U.S. Government is giving to the opposition revolutionary group will not involve Honduras.

[Reporter] How much economic aid will the United States give Honduras?

[Lope Contreras] The U.S. Government told us there was a problem in the sense that the U.S. Congress wants to decrease the assistance to all countries receiving U.S. economic aid. However, Central America, and Honduras in particular, will not be hurt by this measure. Therefore, we are expecting an increase in economic aid. I cannot give a specific amount yet because they will submit it for approval in January when Congress meets again.

[Reporter] Did you review the situation on the northern coast of our country?

[Lopez Contreras] In what regard?

[Reporter] Regarding subversive groups in the Uyuca region.

[Lopez Contreras] We certainly did review this issue. We have a special relation with the United States in terms of security, and in that regard the Honduran Armed Forces and government representatives have been the object of our talks.

[Reporter] Is the region under control?

[Lopez Contreras] I understand it is well under control.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] aid to the contras in Honduras?

[Lopez Contreras] No, absolutely not.

[Reporter] Regarding the $100 million in U.S. aid to the contras, were there any comments made?

[Lopez Contreras] Comments were made, especially regarding what I just told you. The U.S. Government has asured us through their representatives that the Honduran Government will not be held responsible for this.

[Reporter] We have learned that in that delegation there were Pentagon and CIA members who had come to talk to Honduran Government officials. What military implication does this have for our country?

[Lopez Contreras] Look, obviously when there are two countries with a special relation in terms of security, there are routine contacts between representatives of th Armed Forces of both countries.

[Reporter] Is there any Honduran involvement in this [words indistinct]

[Lopez Contreras] No, by no means.

[Reporter] When will the new ambassador arrive?

[Lopez Contreras] That was another one of the topics we discussed. Ambassador Everett Briggs is expected to arrive on 1 November, I understand.

CITIZENS SAY CONTRAS STILL USE AGUACATE AIRFIELD

PA231920 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- Hondurans who live in the eastern part of the country have charged that Nicaraguan contras continue to use the El Aguacate airfield to supply war materiel to anti-Sandinist forces.

That airfield was used by the airplane in which U.S. citizen Eugene Hasenfus was traveling. The plane was downed by a Sandinist surface-to-air missile on 5 October, according to what Hasenfus himself has declared.

The Tegucigalpa daily LA TRIBUNA has reported on peasants from Catacomas, 12 km from the airfield, who claim that there are many contras in the airfield area. Foreign Secretary Carlos Lopez Contreras said last week that the airfield is for the exclusive use of the 6th Infantry Battalion and that it is a military base. According to Lopez Contreras, Hasenfus's statements were a product of psychological pressure from the Nicaraguan authorities.

However, Cesar Tome, chief of the municipal census office of Catacamas, has affiremd he has seen several contras at that airfield. Asuncion Guevara, local head of the Professional Association for the Improvement of Teaching in Honduras, has stated that in recent days an airplane brought a large shipment of arms for the contras operating from that base. We Hondurans feel we have been pushed off our land because the contras enjoy more guarantees and preferences than we do. They walk freely and are armed, Guevara noted.

Residents of Siguate, 1 km from El Aguacate, have reported that the anti-Sandinists once tried to rape a young lady, but did not succeed because some neighbors intervened.

The residents of Siguate say that the presence of contra troops at the airfield is notorious and that they have a well-equipped hospital.

Neither the Honduran government nor the Armed Forces have said anything official regarding the continuous charges about the presence of contras in El Aguacate and in other eastern Honduras regions.

NEW NICARAGUAN COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY GROUP FORMED

PA232310 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0100 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] Today we were handed a copy of a call to form a new anti-Sandinist organization. Once again, anti-Sandinist fronts are organizing themselves. They are using our territory and are involving Hondurans in the international scene. Accusations are constantly being made at the international level, and the International Court of Justice has accused [as heard] Honduras of providing shelter to opponents of a neighboring government.

These copies are being handed out throughout the capital city. The Armed Forces, the president, and the Foreign Ministry will surely not find out about this call; they have denied the existence of contras in our territory.

The call has been made by the Nicaraguan Democratic Development [Fomento Democratico Nicaraguense], whose acronym matches that of the FDN.

This group carries out a complete poll in which, among other things, they ask the days and times people are available for political activities. In addition, a signature is requested, which commits the person to becoming a member of the Nicaraguan Democratic Development.

These activities can only be set up by those with international backing, or they simply must be ignore. [sentence as heard] However, those accusing Honduras of complicity are concerned with the open manner in which the groups operate, without regard to the consequences of implying that Honduras is a Sandinist opposition sanctuary. The accusation has been made today by Nicaraguans who had made Honduras their adoptive country decades ago and are not interested in armed fighting or to politically commit themselves with those who carry out these activities.

NICARAGUA

TPA PRESIDENT ON DEFENSE DEADLINE TO REPLY

PA231230 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2329 GMT 22 Oct 86

[Interview with Anti-Somozist People's Tribunal TPA President Reinaldo Monterrey by unidentified reporter in Managua; no date given -- recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Doctor, good afternoon. How much time does Dr Enrique Sotelo Borgen have? We thought that he had until today to present the corresponding document in reply to the accusations which have been presented by the companero minister of justice. Good afternoon, doctor.

[Monterrey] Good afternoon. We can answer your question by saying that he was notified yesterday of his appointment as defense attorney; this is legal, part of the trial. Therefore, he has 2 days to answer the charges. In other words, the deadline expires tomorrow according to the law and the legal regulations currently in effect.

[Reporter] Doctor, if you please, at what time does the deadline expire tomorrow?

[Monterrey] Well, to mention a specific hour... [change thought] we close down at 1730 here. Nevertheless, the time is counted from midnight to midnight.

[Reporter] Doctor, we wanted to ask you something: Dr Sotelo Borgen said that he felt dissatisfied -- we have an ACAN-EFE report here -- he said that he felt dissatisified with a legal official's refusal to extend the deadline. He was referring to the refusal to grant a 2-day extension which was requested by Dr Sotelo Borgen. We would like to hear your legal viewpoint and that of the TPA.

[Monterrey] Look, he presented a request, but the law is quite clear about this. The defense attorney has a 2-day deadline to answer the charges. The only extension which is possible, according to the law, refers to the evidential term. Once the evidential term begins and expires, he can request an extension of that term -- 1 day before the term expires. That is undeniable because the law says that. The other ... [changes thought] this has never happened and the law does not contemplate anything like this; it is quite clear and specific about the time he has, about the 2-day dateline.

Sotelo Counters Charges

PA240400 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2320 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text of document issued by Enrique Sotelo Borgen to counter charges against Eugene Hasenfus; dated 23 October; read by lawyer Luis Andela Ubeda -- live]

[Text] To the Anti-Somozist People's Tribunal [TPA] at its preliminary hearing I respectfully state the following: According to my appointment as defense attorney for prisoner Eugene Hasenfus; according to the accusations presented by Dr Rodrigo Reyes Portocarrero, as justice minister and attorney general, for violating the laws of public security, enforcement of law, and other related crimes; and, acting within the legal deadline, I answer the document of charges as follows:

Honorable tribunal, I must state with due respect and on behalf of my client that I am disqualified to handle his case because your appointment and existence are illegal, as I hereby prove: According to the fundamental statutes of the Republic of Nicaragua, I must state that your appointment is illegal and is a violation because it was made by the junta of the Government for National Reconstruction, which had no legal authoriztion to do so. This violates the statutes, as can be ascertained in Article 3 of Decree 1233 by the mentioned junta, which literally says: each one of the tribunals referred to by the previous article will be comprised of three regular members and their respective alternate members, appointed by the junta of the government for National Reconstruction; one of the members will be the president of the tribunal.

I insist that this is illegal because Article 21 of the fundamental statutes reads as follows: The judicial branch will be comprised of a supreme court of justice, court of appeals, and higher labor court. The magistrates will be appointed by the government junta; the district judges, local judges, and other officials will be appointed by the Supreme Court of Justice. One infers from this that when it comes to administering justice, only the Supreme court of Justice has the authority to appoint the other officials mentioned by the statutes included in Article 2.

Article 4 states, among other things, that all the defendants will have the right to the following minimum guarantees, under equal conditions: The right to be tried without delay by a competent tribunal -- and the state will respect and guarantee, for all persons within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction, the rights recognized under this heading and the statutes on the Nicaraguan people's rights and guarantees. Therefore, since the honorable tribunal was not appointed by the Supreme Court of Justice, your appointment is totally null and absolutely void; and you should declare your incompetence to judge my client.

Furthermore, Article 6 of the same fundamental statute indicates that the rights included in the UN universal declaration are fully enforced; the international pact on economic, social, and cultural rights; the international pact on civilian and political rights; and the OAS declaration of human rights and duties are guaranteed -- as stated in the statutes on Nicaraguans' rights and guarantees. Then there is the American Convention on Human Rights, of which Nicaragua is a signatory member. Chapter 2, Article 8, literally states: Legal Guarantees -- Every person has the right to be heard -- with due guarantees, within a reasonable deadline, and by a competent, independent, and impartial judge or court that has been previously established by law -- concerning the criminal charges against that person.

Consequently, it is obvious that the honorable tribunal does not meet the qualifications demanded by the fundamental statutes and the various legal provisions stated in the decree to judge my client. The decree that created these tribunals clearly states that you lack the impartiality demanded to administer justice because the name itself is quite clear: Law for Anti-Somozist Tribunals. The scales of justice are already tipped by the decree that states your creation because you are described as anti-Somozist. In other words, you are already prejudiced. In laymen's terms, this is known as being judge and jury because, on the one hand, you are anti-Somozist and, on the other hand, you are trying my client as a Somozist.

Therefore, I ask you to accept this objection so that the prosecutor may present his charges through a competent court. If you overrule this objection, and that would be an unusual case, I would also add another delay request that refers to the prosecutor's illegitimate status. You can easily ascertain in paragraph 2 of the introductory statement that the minister and attorney general issued, quote: In my position as legal representative of the state, I hereby file a formal accusation against Eugene Hasenfus (Hines). [no closing quote notation as heard] This accusation cannot be legally filed by the prosecutor because the law of procedures for crimes concerning the enforcement of order and public security, which is applicable in the case sui juris, literally says: the procedures of preliminary hearing for the investigation, persecution, and punishment for the crimes included in the law mentioned in the previous article, will follow these rules:

A. The trial will begin with formal accusations from the attorney general's office, accusations that will be presented to the defendant or defendants, who will have a 2-day deadline to reply on their own or through a defense lawyer -- either verbally or in writing. Decree No 8-96 from the junta of the Government for National Reconstruction.

Thus, the law does not give the attorney general the authority to file charges in this case. Conequently, he has exceeded his authority and the suit violates the law because he has no authority to act as prosecutor. This is clearly not a lapsus calami, or a slip of the pen, because the last paragraph of the document of charges literally says: I am compelled to prove these charges and I will avail myself of all the legal ways to present evidence.

Honorable tribunal, there are many ways to begin a trial, meaning the ususal ones, to report or present charges. There is a marked difference between a report and the presentation of charges. One of them, the most notorious, is the one where the person only states the facts and reveals them to the authorities so that they may begin the process. In the other, the sui juris case, the person presenting the charges must provide evidence to support them. Furthermore, our penal law states that a special authority is necessary; therefore, an attorney general cannot present charges if he does not have the authority to do so. Consequently, the attorney general does not have the proper authorization to present formal accusations because the law does not authorize him to do so; thus his position is definitely illegal. He is exerting an authority that he has not been granted, so I request the honorable tribunal to rule accordingly.

Honorable tribunal, given the short deadline to answer the accusations, I was compelled to request an extension of the deadline, but this was rejected. Furthermore, a copy of the accusations was not delivered to me until yesterday night, so I had to prepare this document quickly -- thus precluding a good defense -- and will have to expand on the legal concepts in due time.

Honorable tribunal, the trial against my defendant is nothing but a legal mess that obviously puts the country's tribunals to shame, because the minimum norms of civilized justice are being violated with a complete disregard for legal procedures. The tribunal that you comprise has no authority because it is a special tribunal that does not meet the minimum requirements -- as you can clearly ascertain by the analysis published by the OAS on the Anti-Somozist People's Tribunals.

The document of charges presented by the minister of justice was hastily written without concern for the consequences, and the eight-page document simply issues charges against the U.S. Government -- with whom Nicaragua has diplomatic relations -- and its arguments abundantly quote the statements issued through the press, radio, and television by various officials. The minister who presents the charges went as far as stating quite clearly that my defendant is a prisoner of war. Public statements issued by the president of the republic, Commander Daniel Ortega, himself, clearly say that my defendant is a prisoner of war. I must state that the president of a republic is its most appropriate spokesman and his statements should be considered as the truth.

The minister who presented the accusations was influenced by President Ortega's statements, thus solidfying his accusations against a prisoner of war. Therefore, he must be tried according to the Geneva Accords and never by a special tribunal, meaning the Anti-Somozist People's Tribunals, because -- as the name clearly states -- they only have the authority to try Somozists. Also, the term Somozist can only be ascribed to those who support the Somozas, either Genral Anastasio Somoza Garcia, Engineer Luis Somoza Debayle, or General Anastasio Somoza Debayle -- and they are all dead. My defendant could have never been a Somozist because he has not been in Nicaragua before now. Second, Somozism ended [words indistinct] and was confirmed when the junta of the government for National Reconstruction rose to power on 19 July 1979.

The minister who presented the accusations bases his case on the documents he presented, including a declaration issued in English by my defendant without legal counsel at the Department of Operations of the State Security [seven preceding words in English] which means the same in Spanish: National Directorate of State Security, an insitution that lacks an administrative organization and can only exist within a military organization. In other words, the declaration was issued in the presence of military officers and while under detention in a military center, the German Pomares General Barracks, to military officers -- particularly (Walter James Hutton W.), who claims that he is officer in charge, [three preceding words in English], but I do not know what legal organization he represents.

The alleged declaration does not abide by all the legal requirements stated in our criminal laws. The translation of this declaration is not guaranteed by an official translator because the document does not mention the appointment of one. Furthermore, the prosecutor himself later requests the appointment of a translator in his document of charges. The translator must be appointed by the tribunal that is in charge of the case, and must meet all the legal requirements, or he will be rejected.

Consequently, I appear before this authority to deny, reject, and counter all the charges presented against my defendant by the minister of justice. My defendant is not a criminal; he is an employee of a legally established airline. I reject the charges because the person presenting the charges does not tell the truth, and bases his document on articles that have no connection with the case. He is trying to base the accusations on a confession that was reported presented at the National Directorate of State Security at 1200 on 16 October. I hereby reject this confession because it was not spontaneous; quite the contrary, it was forced out of him by a military organization under pressure and threat. Consequently, the confession has no legal value against my defendant; quite the contrary, it irrefutably proves that the process does not abide by the minimum norms of civilized justice, as stated by international laws.

Therefore, and given all the aforementioned evidence, I again deny, reject, and counter the document of charges; and clearly state that no Nicaraguan code states that the act of being a mercenary is a crime. Therefore, there is no crime. The law is the only thing that can define a crime. I hereby condemn this tribunal because [words indistinct] viewpoint of all its members, as I will prove my accusations and viewpoints.

Consequently, I request that you immediately -- meaning, as of this moment -- abstain from handling this case until a ruling is issued by the tribunal that will handle these accusations.

Managua, 23 October, 1986

Enrique Sotelo Borgen

Threatened With Death

PA231814 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1716 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Excerpt] Managua, 23 Oct (DPA) -- Enrique Sotelo Borge, defense counsel of U.S. citizen Eugene Hasenfus, who has been charged with attacking the Nicaraguan state, has been threatened with death during the last few hours, Radio Noticias of Managua has reported.

According to Sotelo, anonymous callers, whom, he believes are political hotheads, have threatened him and his family if he continues defending "the CIA mercenary" in the Anti-Somozist People's Tribunals [TPA].

Sotelo added that he will decide today if he will present arguments in favor of Hasenfus or if he will let the Attorney General's Office present the evidence against Hasenfus, who was carrying weapons aboard a C-123-K plane on Saturday, 5 October, from El Salvador -- on a CIA mission, according to all indications -- when it was shot down by a ground-to-air missile of the Nicarguan Army in southern Nicaragua.

Sotelo said that he did not believe the threats came from any Sandinist government sector, but from political hotheads who do not understand what judicial practice means. The Nicaraguan lawyer said today that his client may be released according to "political conveniences" which may be reflected in the amnesty law. The lawyer said that he found no legal obstacles to carrying out the defense and that he obtained a 24-hour extension to talk with his client.

Sotelo noted that his main objective is "to obtain freedom" for Hasenfus using every possible means. Hasenfus is facing charges filed by the Justice Ministry at the TPA, which has an exceptional status because it was created 3 years ago to legally try the cases of citizens involved in counterrevolutionary operations.

Sotelo announced that former U.S. Attorney General Griffin Bell will be arriving today in Managua to act as adviser in Hasenfus' defense. Former Attorney General Ramsey Clark, who wants to learn about the trial against Hasenfus, arrived last night.

The lawyer said that he does not accept the government's charge against Hasenfus because the case involves arms smuggling, and in any case, "transportation of weapons" because the weapons were not aboard a military plane.

Ramsey Clark, Ambassador Arrive

PA240030 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 23 Oct 86 p 16

[Text] Ramsey Clark, former U.S. attorney general, arrived last night in Managua. He said that he is here to investigate how involved the U.S. Government is in the downing of the plane that was supplying arms to the counterrevolution.

Everyone knows the role that the United States has played in the aggression against Nicaragua and there are some activities in which the U.S. Government is involved, he said. I also want to know the role played by the United States in financing mercenary forces to overthrow a foreign government, a situation that worries me a lot, Clark added. He added that during his visit to Nicaragua, he will closely watch the trial of Eugene Hasenfus.

Clark, who is opposed to financing mercenary forces, said that this has cost thousands of lives. He added that no one can deny the Nicaraguan people's right to protect themselves. Clark said that the United States has a moral and legal obligation to Hasenfus. So far, the U.S. Government has denied any connection with the war prisoner.

In the same flight that brought Clark to Managua last night, U.S. Ambassador to Nicaragua Harry Bergold arrived. He slipped through the newsmen at the airport, and rapidly entered an embassy vehicle which transported him out of the airport in a hurry.

TPA Tries Nine Foreigners

PA230258 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2248 GMT 22 Oct 86

[Text] To date, the Anti-Somozist People's Tribunals [TPA] have already tried six people, and three others are being currently tried. In other words, the TPA's have tried a total of nine foreign mercenaries.

here is a quick review of their names and sentences: Gregorio Najera Andrade, Guatemalan, 30 years; Dante Perdomo Paz, Honduran, 30 years; Francisco Natarin Garcia, Honduran, 28 years; Francisco Madrigal Chambrenero, Costa Rican, 24 years; Rafael Nunez Pena Zeledon, Costa Rican, 24 years; and Silvio Alfredo Carvajal Tamayo, Costa Rican, 5 years.

As mentioned, three are being tried: Cuban-born Ubaldo Hernandez Perez and Mario Eugenio Rosas Navas, and Eugene Hasenfus of the United States.

GORBACHEV TERMS U.S. DECISION AS 'SAVAGE'

FL230202 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0001 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] Mikhail Gorbachev said today in a televised message that there will be a response to the extreme U.S. decision to expel 55 Soviet diplomats. The CPSU secretary general said the United States has recently adopted measures that would seem savage to any normal person after recently holding an important high-level meeting in Reykjavik.

Later, Gorbachev rejected Western versions that no agreement was reached at the Iceland capital because the Soviet Union presented its proposals in a package instead of separately. He also said all the Soviet proposals made at Reykjavik are ready for the negotiating table and everything said for the founding and development of the proposals is still in effect.

COMMENTARY REPORTS BUSH-POSADA CONNECTION

PA232116 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Oct 86

["What the Press Has To Say" by Maruja Garcia and Norberto Hernandez]

[Text] [Garcia] Dear friends, today we will read the second, and last, part of a commentary by the daily GRANMA entitled: Reagan and Bush -- Cronies of an Infamous Terrorist. The item deals with the personality of Luis Posada Carriles, a terrorist and CIA agent who is currently a U.S. Government adviser for the criminal campaign of aggression against the Nicaraguan people.

[Hernandez] Speaking about the friendship of Posada Carriles and U.S. Vice President George Bush, GRANMA notes that very probably it was this tie that made it possible for the terrorist to easily escape from a Venezuelan prison and to establish his residence in El Salvador with the approval of the pro-yankee regime of Jose Napoleon Duarte.

[Garcia] The commentary of the news organ of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba emphatically states that what the American jailed in Nicaragua has confirmed has led AFP to say: It is to be expected that the Venezuelan Government will ask the Salvadoran Government for information on the whereabouts of Posada as well as for his arrest and extradition.

[Hernandez] However, it is very probable that Posada Carriles has already been taken by the CIA to another place. The mere mention of his name has served to unmask those who have given him protection and support and use him in criminal actions against a Latin American nation.

[Garcia] GRANMA adds that the Posada Carriles case has served to uncover the hypocrisy, cynicism, and falsehood that has been ever-present in the Ronald Reagan administration's effort to appear as a champion in the struggle against international terrorism. In this effort, the main tenant of the White House recently took it upon himself to attack Libya militarily and try to murder Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

[Hernandez] Sick hatred toward the Nicaraguan revolution has led U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Vice President George Bush to use one of the most despicable terrorists of the world and to become his cronies. But there is nothing illogical about that, the commentary notes; it is, in fact, a situation in line with the philosophy of the Reagan administration, with its fascist and adventuresome entrails.

[Garcia] Reagan and Bush, journalist Juan Marrero -- author of the commentary -- adds, by warmly welcoming the executioner of the Barbados genocide, practically blessed that action, put on record their affinity with the authors of the crime, and made clear the real promoters of Posada Carriles' escape from a Venezuelan prison.

[Hernandez] The Barbados-CIA connection is now clearer than ever. Fidel said it at the funeral eulogy for the victims of the Cubana de Aviacion plane destroyed in flight on 6 October 1976: The CIA is behind this. Bush could not have ignored the situation. At that time he was director of the CIA.

[Garcia] The GRANMA commentary says in its final paragraph: Nowdays, Bush, Elliott Abrams, Shultz, and other Reagan administration officials have been characterizing the yankee pilots who died in Nicaragua, as well as Hasenfus, as patriots and heroes of the struggle for liberty and democracy. Will they dare apply the same adjectives to describe their infamous crony, Posada Carriles?

COMMENTARY VIEWS FATE OF HASENFUS, COMPANIONS

PA231604 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Oct 86

["Our America" commentary read by Amalia Sanmartin]

[Text] On Monday, national and foreign reporters accredited in Managua heard Nicaraguan Justice Minister Rodrigo Reyes request a 30-year sentence, the maximum punishment established by our country's law, for U.S. citizen Eugene Hasenfus, the only survivor of the plane downed on 6 October as he was trying to supply the counterrevolution.

Press representatives once again got a glimpse of the defendant: a robust man with an indifferent stare whose extreme loquacity has brought about a great scandal within U.S. political circles because he exposed the complicity of the high leadership of that government in open maneuvers to topple Nicaraguan authorities. Hasenfus is not young, and although his future will in no way resemble what he envisioned when -- according to his own words -- he worked for the CIA, it will however be much better than that of his companeros, who are now perhaps only in the minds of their immediate relatives.

The incredible salary paid by the CIA to its agents in no way helped to spare William Cooper and Wallace Blaine Sawyer from their fate. They died when their plane was downed. The odyssey of the bodies of those, who until then were considered heroes by the U.S. Government, began at that moment.

It has always been said that the dead are alone; however, they were perhaps never as lonely as the ones that waited for hours in front of the U.S. Embassy in Managua, because their compatriots wanted nothing to do with them. Shortly afterward, as a hot potato that must be rapidly dropped, the dust-covered coffins were transported in a pickup truck without license plates and taken to the airport. Once there, an unidentified employee tagged them with a vulgar identification card as is done with regular luggage.

Two lower-ranking officials and the pickup truck's driver were Coopera and Sawyer's only companions. While the gray coffins were lost among the plane's cargo, the officials seemed to want the earth to swallow the coffins, because the preparations to send them to the United States were almost clandestine in nature. Reporters said it appeared to be a secret cargo, a shameful shipment, a dispatch of dubious value.

Those compatriots killed in an alleged war action turned out to be an annoying burden to the U.S. Government and their representatives of the U.S. Embassy in Managua. In that way, thrown into the luggage compartment of a plane, these two U.S. nationals, who were hired by a U.S. Government agency, returned to the United States. The U.S. flag did not cover their coffins; there was no ceremony and Taps was not played for them. The only homage for these people, who were described by Reagan as heroes in the struggle for liberty, was the silent complicity of the mercenary adventure and the spite and oblivion toward something that is no longer useful.

Meanwhile, Hasenfus is also a person left to his fate by those who only thought of him as a number on a payroll.

CASTRO SUPPORTS NICARAGUA'S UN COUNCIL REQUEST

FL231422 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] Cuba has given its support to the Nicaraguan request for the UN Security Council to urge the United States to comply with the ruling made by the Hague's International Court of Justice.

The Mexican Delegation also backed our country's position at the United Nations. However, U.S. representative to the Security Council Vernon Walters reiterated his country's continued support to the mercenary bands attacking Nicaragua and minimized the importance of the international court's decision by alleging that Nicaragua poses a threat to neighboring Central American countries.

RISQUET, MALMIERCA OFFER CONDOLENCES FOR MACHEL

FL232111 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1902 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Excerpt] A book of condolences was opened this morning at the embassy of the People's Republic of Mozambique in Havana on the occasion of the death of Samora Machel, president of the Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] party and the People's Republic of Mozambique. The book was signed at 10:00 this morning by Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo, and Isidoro Malmierca, member of the Central Committee and foreign minister. [passage omitted]

CABRISAS PLEASED WITH BRAZILIAN TRADE TALKS

FL231435 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas said talks with Brazilian Government officials to immediately begin trade between the two countries were open, positive, and encouraging.

In its first stage, it is estimated that Cuban-Brazilian trade will amount to $200 million. Cuba will export goods such as cement, cotton, tobacco, oil, and raw materials to manufacture medicines and Brazil will export equipment for railraods, industries, and construction, as well as chemical materials.

ARGENTINA APPROVES COOPERATION AGREEMENT

FL232142 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1905 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] It was reported that the Argentine executive branch has passed a decree approving a scientific-technical cooperation agreement between the Governments of Cuba and Argentina. The agreement signed by the two countries in 1984 was approved by the Argentine congress. The decree creates bilateral joint cooperation commissions and allows the possibility for bilateral agreements between scientific and technical institutes.

TRADE UNION WORKSHOP ON FOREIGN DEBT BEGINS

FL232236 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1904 GMT 23 Oct 86

[Text] The working sessions of the Second International Trade Union Workshop on the foreign debt began today in Havana's Palace of Conventions with an act commemorating the unforgettable Mozambican President Samora Machel.

Jesus Escandel, member of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions Executive Secretariat, gave the opening words at the meeting and he expressed his assurance that together we will advance in the search and establishment of a new international economic order. He said the Second International Trade Union Workshop on the foreign debt shows the workers of the continent are firm against the dictates of the great imperialist capital that is solely trying to annihilate our peoples. Escandel said this tribunal in Havana will bring the nourishment of solidarity to its participants and to all men and women who, today, 23 October, march through the streets with the slogan, "No foreign debt payment!"

Veiga, Preieto Preside

FL230030 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0001 GMT 24 Oct 86

[Text] The delegates to the Second International Trade Union Workshop on the foreign debt today followed the clamor of the workers of the world on the international day against payment of the foreign debt and in favor of a new international economic order and regional integration of the peoples.

During the meeting held after reports were presented in the palace of conventions, speakers from Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia, and Africa related the experiences of countries which are pressured by the terrible foreign debt and supported the struggle for the suspension of payments.

Politburo member Roberto Veiga, secretary general of the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions], and Roberto Prieto, Permament Congress for Latin American Workers Trade Union Unity, CPUSTAL, presided over the meeting in which 400 delegates participated.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

GOVERNMENT ACCUSED OF DESTROYING ECONOMY

FL212234 Bridgetown CANA in English 1946 GMT 21 Oct 86

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Oct 21, CANA -- Radical local trade union leader George Weekes today accused the Trinidad and Tobago business sector and foreign companies here of destroying the Trinidadian economy.

The left-leaning Weekes, president general of the powerful oilfields workers trade union [OWTU], told a news conference [that] international multinational companies supported by local conglomerates had pursued a policy aimed at putting the country in debt. He also accused locally-based oil companies and the chemical factory, Fedchem, of ceasing exploration, reducing maintenance of refineries, and operating plants at minimum capacity.

Weekes said government was selling out workers by leaving them to the mercy of the business community and the economic problems of the country resulted from a number of events. He said millions of dollars earned during the boom years had been exported by foreign-based companies and money left here had been spent by the local business sector on real estate, lavish lifestyles, and consumer facilities, such as shopping malls. Weekes said Trinidad and Tobago was following the path which many other IMF countries had found themselves.

Trinidad and Tobago, being the only major oil-producing commonwealth Caribbean country with a drop in the price of oil, the government -- in order to administer -- is pursuing policies that have been recommended by the international monetary fund, he declared. The OWTU leader said the long-term policy had been to lead Trinidad and Tobago to manipulation from abroad with a non-governmental and business-enterprise world policy.

He alleged there was a trend in the business sector of large groups of companies transferring their fixed assets to a holding group only to close down separate companies without enough assets to pay workers. Weekes said, too, that there was growing control by commercial banks over the local economy.

Such policies were pushing the country towards the IMF, he added. The government is not prepared to defend our national sovereignty and independence...the opposition is equally silent and does little for workers, he charged.

GILL ELECTED SELA DEPUTY PERMAMENT SECRETARY

FL222230 Bridgetown CANA in English 2146 GMT 22 Oct 86

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Oct 22, CANA -- Trinidadian Henry Gill has been elected to the post of deputy permanent secretary at the Latin American Economic System (SELA), the local external affairs ministry announced tonight. Gill -- who succeeds Ambassador Homer Hernandez of the Dominican Republic -- was elected at the 12th regular session of the Latin American council held in Peru earlier this month. Gill had served with SELA as Caribbean affairs coordinator since February 1983. His four-year term of office begins on November 23.